Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A combination of antibodies comprising

(a) an anti-HPV-16 E7 antibody obtainable by

(i) eliciting an in vivo humoral response against HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof in a goat; and

(ii) affinity-purifying antibodies as obtained in the eliciting-step (i); and

(b) an anti-HPV-18 E7 antibody.

2. (Original) The combination of antibodies of claim 1, wherein said HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof is recombinantly produced.

3. (Currently Amended) The combination of antibodies of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said HPV-16 E7 protein or said fragment thereof is expressed in E. coli.

4. (Currently Amended) The combination of antibodies of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3,~~ claim 1 wherein said HPV-16 E7 protein or said fragment thereof is highly purified.

5. (Original) The combination of antibodies of claim 4, wherein said highly purified HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof is purified by a combination of ion exchange chromatography and gel filtration.

6. (Original) The combination of antibodies of claim 5, wherein said purification further comprises, prior to ion exchange chromatography and gel filtration, a protein precipitation step.

7. (Currently Amended) The combination of antibodies of ~~any one of claims 1 to 6,~~ claim 1, wherein said affinity purification of the obtained antibodies is carried out over immobilized HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof.

8. (Original) The combination of antibodies of claim 7, wherein said HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof is immobilized on PVDF membranes, nitrocellulose, sepharose, agarose, DEAE-cellulose or DEAE.

9. (Currently Amended) The combination of antibodies of ~~any one of claims 1 to 8,~~ claim 1, wherein said anti-HPV-18 E7 antibody is a polyclonal or monoclonal antibody.

10. (Original) The combination of antibodies of claim 9, wherein said anti-HPV-18 E7 polyclonal antibody is derived from a non-human animal selected from the group consisting of rat, mouse, guinea pig, chicken, duck, sheep, horse, goat, pig, cattle and donkey.

11. (Original) The combination of antibodies of claim 9, wherein said anti-HPV-18 E7 polyclonal antibody is obtainable by

(i) eliciting an in vivo humoral response against highly purified HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof in a rabbit; and

(ii) affinity-purifying antibodies as obtained in the eliciting-step (i).

12-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of a diagnostic composition comprising the step of formulating the combination of antibodies of ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 with a diagnostically acceptable carrier, diluent, buffer, or storage solution.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of any one of claims 12 to 15 or the~~ method of claim 16, wherein said diagnostic composition further comprises suitable means for detection.

18. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic composition comprising the combination of antibodies of claim 1. ~~any one of claims 1 to 11 or obtained by the method of claim 16 or 17.~~

19. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising the combination of antibodies of claim 1. ~~any one of claims 1 to 11, or a diagnostic composition of claim 18.~~

20. (Currently Amended) An in vitro method for the detection of high risk HPV E7 protein comprising the steps of

incubating a biological sample with the combination of antibodies of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~; and

measuring and/or detecting E7 protein of high risk HPV,

whereby the presence, the absence or the amount of specifically-bound antibodies of the combination of antibodies of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ is indicative for the presence of high risk HPV E7 protein.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said high risk HPV is HPV-16, HPV-18, HPV-31, HPV-33, HPV-35, HPV-39, HPV-45, HPV-52, HPV-56, HPV-58 and/or HPV-59.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the detection of high risk HPV E7 protein is used for determining the occurrence of a sexually transmittable disease or cancer.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising a further step (c), whereby in said step (c) the presence, the absence or the amount of specifically-bound antibodies of the combination of antibodies of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ of step (b) is compared to the presence, the absence or the amount of specifically-bound antibodies of the combination of antibodies of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ in a negative or a positive control sample.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 ~~or the use of claim 15~~ wherein said sexually transmitted disease is a high risk HPV infection or wherein said cancer is cervical cancer, breast cancer/mamma cancer, prostate cancer, head and neck cancer, penile cancer and/or anogenital cancer/neoplasia (AIN).

26. (Original) A method for the production of a combination of an anti-HPV-16 E7 antibody and an anti-HPV-18 E7 antibody comprising the steps of

(a) eliciting an in vivo humoral response against HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof in a goat;

affinity-purifying antibodies as obtained in the eliciting-step (a) and

mixing the antibody of step (b) with an anti-HPV-18 E7 antibody.

27. (Original) A method for the production of a combination of an anti-HPV-16 E7 antibody and an anti-HPV-18 E7 antibody comprising the steps of

(a) eliciting an in vivo humoral response against HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof and against HPV-18 E7 protein or a fragment thereof in a goat; and

(b) affinity-purifying antibodies as obtained in the eliciting-step (a).

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 ~~or 26~~, wherein said HPV-16 E7 protein or fragment thereof is highly-purified.

29. (Currently Amended) The combination of antibodies of claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 11 or the method of any one of claims 26 to 28,~~ wherein said highly purified HPV-16 E7 protein or said fragment thereof is a native, highly purified HPV-16 E7 protein or a fragment thereof.

30. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic composition comprising the antibody obtainable as described in step (a) of claim 1 ~~or as obtained by the method of any one of claims 26 to 28~~.

31. (Original) A method for the preparation of a diagnostic composition comprising the step of formulating the antibody of claim 30 with a diagnostically acceptable carrier, diluent, buffer, or storage solution.

32-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising the antibody obtainable as described in step (a) of claim 1 ~~or a diagnostic composition of claim 30~~.

38. (Currently Amended) An in vitro method for the detection of HPV-31, HPV-33, HPV-35, HPV-39, HPV-45, HPV-52, HPV-56, HPV-58 and/or HPV-59 E7 protein comprising the steps of

a) incubating a biological sample with the antibody obtainable as described in step (a) of claim 1 or the antibody combination of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11 or an antibody combination as obtained by the method of any one of claims 26 to 28~~; and

measuring and/or detecting E7 protein of HPV-31, HPV-33, HPV-35, HPV-39, HPV-45, HPV-52, HPV-56, HPV-58 and/or HPV-59,

whereby the presence, the absence or the amount of specifically-bound said antibodies is indicative for the presence of high risk HPV E7 protein .

39. (New) A diagnostic composition comprising the combination of antibodies obtained by the method of claim 16.

40. (New) A diagnostic composition comprising the combination of antibodies obtained by the method of claim 17.

41. (New) A kit comprising the diagnostic composition of claim 18.

42. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said HPV-16 E7 protein or fragment thereof is highly-purified.

43. (New) A kit comprising the diagnostic composition of claim 30.